

*****C O N F I D E N T I A L*****S COPY

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FM THE SITUATION ROOM TOHAK 85

TO AMEMBASSY JERUSALEM

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TOHAK 85

TO LARRY EAGLEBURGER FOR SEC. KISSINGER

JANUARY 17, 1974

TO HENRY A. KISSINGER
FROM BRENT SCOWCROFT

THE FOLLOWING REPORT WAS MADE BY BOB SHEIFFER ON CBS NEWS THIS MORNING.

BOB SHEIFFER
CBS MORNING NEWS
7:30 A.M. 1/17/74

THE INCIDENTS OF ALLEGED MILITARY SNOOPING ON HENRY KISSINGER TOOK PLACE LONG BEFORE SCHLESINGER BECAME SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, OF COURSE, BUT HE HAS LAUNCHED HIS OWN INVESTIGATION INTO THE MATTER THIS WEEK. SO FAR HE HAS CONCLUDED THAT INPROPRIETIES DID OCCUR, APPARENTLY SOME DOCUMENTS FROM THE WHITE HOUSE WERE PASSED TO THE PENTAGON WITHOUT KISSINGER'S KNOWLEDGE. BUT SCHLESINGER AT THIS POINT SEEMS TO THINK THAT THE TROUBLE IS THE RESULT OF OVERZEALOUSNESS ON THE PART OF PENTAGON LIAISON OFFICERS AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

MORI/CDF
C03344104

HE HAS FOUND NO EVIDENCE AS YET OF A MILITARY PLOT TO WRECK KISSINGER'S FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVES, AS SOME WHITE HOUSE SOURCES WERE SUGGESTING EARLIER THIS WEEK.

SCHLESINGER STILL ISN'T ENTIRELY SATISFIED AND HE IS CONTINUING HIS INVESTIGATION. WHETHER HE HAS TALKED TO THE PRESIDENT YET IS NOT KNOWN. WHILE THE EPISODE IS STILL NOT SETTLED, SOURCES THROUGHOUT THE GOVERNMENT CONCEDE THERE WAS WIDESPREAD SUSPICION AND MISTRUST AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY IN

ON-FILE NSC
RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

*****WHSR COMMENT*****

SECEL

PSN:037320

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THOSE DAYS. A FORMER MEMBER OF KISSINGER'S STAFF TOLD A STORY RECENTLY TO ILLUSTRATE WHAT HE CALLED THE "ATMOSPHERE OF INFIGHTING." AT ONE POINT HE SAID, CIA DIRECTOR RICHARD HELMS WAS HUSHING UP A REPORT BY ONE OF HIS MEN WHO HAD CONCLUDED THAT THE VIET CONG BY THE THOUSANDS WERE INFILTRATING THE SAIGON GOVERNMENT. SOME OF HELMS MEN GOT ANGRY AND LEAKED THE STORY, NOT TO NEWSMEN BUT TO KISSINGER'S STAFF. THEY IN TURN COMPOSED A LETTER TO HELMS, THE NATION'S TOP SPY. IN EFFECT THE LETTER SAID, "OUR SOURCES AT YOUR AGENCY SAY YOU HAVE THIS CERTAIN REPORT. WE WANT IT."

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